

Volume 64

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Number 11

## **Annual Christmas Count December 19**

On Sunday, December 19, GGAS will hold its annual Christmas bird census and all motivated members and non-members are encouraged to participate. It isn't necessary to be an expert or experienced bird-watcher. All interested persons are needed on the GGAS count!

If you haven't been called yet, phone Kurt Campbell at 236-4182 (before 9 p.m.) or Andrea Kieserman at GGAS office (843-2222). And please plan to join us at the customary potluck after the count.

-KURT CAMPBELL and PHIL UNITT Christmas Count Compilers

#### POTLUCK TO FOLLOW THE COUNT

The apres-count celebration will be held at the Trinity Methodist Church (same place as last year) at the corner of Bancroft Way and Dana St. in Berkeley. The church entrance is at 2362 Bancroft Way. Corn chowder, bread, coffee and tea will be furnished by the GGAS. The rest of the food will be potluck. Persons whose last names begin with A-M are expected to bring a dessert and those in the N-Z group a salad. Food will begin to be served at 5 p.m. and the species count-down will begin about 7 p.m. If the count day is rainy or muddy please bring a clean pair of shoes to wear in the church.

Those who can help with clean-up will be appreciated.

-HAZEL HOUSTON, Hospitality

#### JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The subject will be the Farallones and the place will be Building C, Room 300 of the Fort Mason Center, Marina and Laguna in San Francisco, on Thursday, January 13, at 7:30 p.m.

# Field Trips Calendar

See the November Gull for the following trips:

Saturday, December 4—Bolinas Lagoon.

Sunday, December 5—Beginners' Trip to Chain of Lakes, Golden Gate Park.

Wednesday, December 8-Mini-trip to Arrowhead Marsh, Oakland.

Wednesday, December 22—Lake Merced. Meet at 9 a.m. at the Lake Merced Circle at the south end of Sunset Blvd. in San Francisco. This trip will end at noon. We expect to see wintering land and water birds. Leader: Dan Murphy (564-0074).

Saturday/Sunday, January 8-9—Sacramento and Gray Lodge Wildlife refuges. On Saturday meet at 9 a.m. in parking lot \*15 at Gray Lodge. Approach via Hwy. 99 and follow the signs out of Live Oak or Gridley. On Sunday meet at 8 a.m. at the Sacramento Wildlife Refuge headquarters seven miles south of Willows. There is a state park campground in Colusa. For those wishing to stay in a motel, the Blue Gum in Willows (916-934-5401) is suggested. From the Bay Area drive east on I-80 to I-505 in Vacaville, take I-505 to I-5 and drive north to Willows for lodging or turn off sooner for the refuges. Bring lunch, scopes and clothes appropriate for the valley in January. Leaders: Peter and Dolores White (229-1714). ( $\sqrt{\phantom{a}}$ )

Saturday, January 8—Palo Alto Baylands. Take Hwy. 101 south to Palo Alto, exit at Embarcadero and drive east toward the yacht harbor and the Baylands Refuge until you reach the duck pond on the left just beyond the Palo Alto Airport. Meet here at 9 a.m. Bring lunch, scopes and clothes appropriate for rain and mud. We should see waterfowl, rails and shorebirds. Leader: Dan Murphy (564-0074).

Carpooling arrangements can be made for trips marked ( $\sqrt{}$ ). Call Kate Partridge at 236-9053 and leave a message. She will contact you.

Problems: If for any reason you have difficulty getting in touch with a field trip leader or need information regarding a trip, call Shirley Kelly (387-8290) or the GGAS office (843-2222).

-FIELD TRIPS COMMITTEE

## Birding in Los Banos

The 15th annual Los Banos Christmas Count will be held on Tuesday, December 28. Western Merced County is justly famous for its concentrations of waterfowl, its raptors and White-faced Ibis. There are also

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many unusual and exciting records here, including Ruffs, Eastern Phoebes, Emperor Geese and more. Last year's count found Surf Scoter, Barn Swallows, Sage Thrasher, Solitary Vireo, Yellow Warbler and others. The count also recorded national high numbers of American Bittern, Northern Harrier (Marsh Hawk) and Long-billed Dowitcher.

This growing count depends heavily on help from outside the Los

Banos area. Once again we are calling for help from everywhere.

The compilation is held at one of California's finest (and most affordable) Basque restaurants, so join us for good birding, good eating and an all-around good time.

For details call compiler Kurt Campbell at 415-236-4182 (before 9 p.m.) or write to him at 5124 Wall Ave., #2, Richmond, CA 94804.

# October Observations - through October 27

This month was probably our least exciting October in the last several years, especially considering the steady increase in observers. I have received no Farallon report since late September, but most vagrant seasons there parallel the activity on Point Reyes.

#### **PELAGICS**

At sea off Monterey, there was an abrupt shift from early fall birds to late fall birds between October 3 and 10, at least a month earlier than normal. Most shearwaters, jaegers, terns and associated birds vanished. Dozens of Northern Fulmars arrived and the few remaining shearwaters included the late fall species Short-tailed and Black-vented, both first seen Oct. 10 (Rs, et al). Six Black-vented Shearwaters were at Monterey Bay Oct. 16 (SFB, et al). Before the big change, a Flesh-footed Shearwater was there Oct. 3 (DR, JL, et al). Storm Petrels did not join the mass exodus and small numbers of the warm-water Least Storm Petrel were present in the flock at least through Oct. 17 (mob, JM). A single Wilson's Storm Petrel was repeatedly seen there through Oct. 16 (mob, SFB) and there were two Oct. 10 (RS, et al). A Fork-tailed Storm Petrel brightened the flock Oct. 16 (BR, et al). A real surprise after the departure of early fall species was a reported Red-billed (?) Tropicbird in Monterey Bay Oct. 10 (RS, et al).

A wreck of Red Phalaropes arrived in the fog of Oct. 24, followed a couple of days later by distressed Red-necked (Northern) Phalaropes (mob). Reds penetrated to various locations inside San Francisco and San Pablo bays. Nine or eleven even strayed to the Stockton Sewage Ponds Oct. 28 (RS). A Sabine's Gull flew past Point Reyes Lighthouse Oct. 3 (AH, et al). A Marbled Murrelet was again seen at Monterey harbor Oct. 2 (RK, LB). Rarer than this fall's Craveri's Murrelets was the pair of Xantus' Murrelets of the southern race (or species?) hypoleuca of Montercy Oct. 3 (JML, DR, JL, et al), the second record

for Northern California.

#### OTHER NON-PASSERINES

A good inland find was a Red-necked Grebe at Shadow Cliffs Park Oct. 22-23 (PJ, AE, et al). A flock of White-faced Ibises flying near San Leandro Bay Oct. 24 (EM) reminds us of September's flock at Palo Alto. Eurasian Wigeons were back on schedule, one at Five Brooks Oct. 20-24 (BDP, mob) and two at Bolinas Lagoon Oct. 23-24 (MLR, DD, KH, JG).

Single Broad-winged Hawks passed Point Diablo Oct. 2 (RLeV, BB, mob) and Oct. 3 (SM, MM, DiW, DM, mob). Very few were reported

this year.

A Mountain Plover visited plowed fields by the Point Reyes RCA Station Oct. 15 (BL) and the peak count of Lesser Golden Plovers was at the same place Oct. 24 (DT). Pectoral Sandpipers peaked at an unprecedented 80-90 Oct. 9 at Elkhorn Slough (BH, mob). A Sharp-tailed Sandpiper was there Oct. 4-10 (mob) and an apparent Sharp-tailed was at Mendoza Pond Oct. 23 (mob, BA). The latter pond hosted its second (?) Stilt Sandpiper of the fall Oct. 12 (BY, et al). Richly-manured puddles downstream from Mendoza Pond hold most of the shorebirds, which occasionally fly up to the main pond (BA, JM, et al). It is possible that the Oct. 12 Stilt Sandpiper was the same one seen Sept. 28.

Both Black-headed Gull and Little Gull were back at Stockton Sewage Ponds Oct. 18 (DY) for the fifth consecutive year! A Black Tern was at Horseshoe Pond, Drakes Beach, Oct. 24 (DT). One wonders whether the immature Calliope Hummingbird at Point Reyes Lighthouse trees Oct. 6 (BY) was the same one reported 13 days earlier by the same observer.

#### **PASSERINES**

Another Least Flycatcher stopped at Point Reyes Lighthouse trees Oct. 1 (RS, BY, et al). Three Tropical Kingbirds appeared in October: along Drakes Beach Road Oct. 18 (MLR, PA), Stinson Beach Oct. 23 (DW, et al) and Bodega Bay Oct. 23-26 (JMcC, JM, NC, mob). An apparent Townsend's Solitaire paused momentarily in a Berkeley yard Oct. 22 (AK). A Sage Thrasher visited Lighthouse trees Oct. 10 (JML, et al, fide BH) and another frequented Road Forks Pool Oct. 22-26 (mob). From farther east, a Brown Thrasher dropped in on the Lighthouse Oct. 17 (BY, mob).

October's weather continued to limit the accumulation of vagrants along our coast. There were no sustained overcasts. Clear weather alternated with early winter storms and variable coastal fog. The only notable wave of eastern warblers and other vagrants appeared Oct. 15 and was virtually gone the next day. The table of vagrant warblers (mainland only, remember) lists only 77 individuals of only 14 species. All species were very scarce relative to an average October, except the fairly rare Black-throated Blue Warbler (6) and the fairly common Palm Warbler

(42). In fact the Palm's mediocre total represented 55% of all the month's eastern warblers.

Tennessee Warbler (total 2)		
1 Nunes Ranch	Sept. 30	OA, BH, PW, et al
1 Carmel River Mouth	Oct. 9	RS, et al
Northern Parula (total 1)		,
1 Fish Docks Chestnut-sided Warbler (total 1)	Sept. 30-Oct. 7	RS, JE, mob
1 Middle Lake, G.G. Park	0-1-10	
Magnolia Warbler (total 3)	Oct. 12	AH
1 Point Reyes Lighthouse	Oct. 12	IDa DV - / /
1 Lincoln Park, S. F.	Oct. 3	JRo, BY, <i>et al</i> DM
1 San Francisco	Oct. 13	BF
Black-throated Blue Warbler (total 6)		Di.
3 Nunes	Oct. 2(male),	BA, CC, BY, mob
mala Manda	9(m), 15(f)	, , , = , ,
male Mendoza	Oct. 12-17	BY, mob
male Lincoln Park, S. F. female Laguna Grande, Monterey Co	Oct. 15	AH
Blackburnian Warbler (total 2)	. Oct. 2	DSe, BS
2 Lincoln Park, S. F.	Oct. 15; 26	ALL ALL ID-
Palm Warbler (total 42)	Oct. 13, 20	AH; AH, JRo
40 Point Reyes	Sept. 30-Oct. 24;	mob
	peak 11 on Oct. 15	11100
1 Bear Valley HQ	Oct. 7	KHi
1 Lincoln Park, S. F.	Oct. 7	DM, AH
Bay-breasted Warbler (total 1)	0.1.10	
1 Nunes	Oct. 10	BH, et al
Blackpoll Warbler (total 10) 9 Point Reyes	Oct 2 2(4) 15(0)	
o rount ricyes	Oct. 2-3(4), 15(2), 22-23(3)	mob
9 Lincoln Park, S. F.	Oct. 26	AH, JRo
Black-and-white Warbler (total 4)	001. 20	AH, UNU
1 Fish Docks	Oct. 10	BH, et al
1 Mendoza	Oct. 15-17	BL, BY, et al
2(+?) Carmel River Mouth	Oct. 2; 9(2-3)	DY,et al;RS, et al
American Redstart (total 2)	0.1.0	
1 Mendoza 1 Battery Wallace	Oct. 3	JZ
1 Battery Wallace Prothonotary Warbler (total 1)	Oct. 15	TG
1 Nunes	Sept. 30	OA, BH, PW, RS,
	30pt. 30	JE, et al
Northern Waterthrush (total 1)		02, 0. a.
1 Nunes	Oct. 15	SC,BY,BL, et al
Canada Warbler (total 1)	0	
	Oct. 22-26	BR, mob
A male Summer Tanager was a	t Lighthouse Oct. 2 (	BA, GH, et al).

A male Summer Tanager was at Lighthouse Oct. 2 (BA, GH, et al). Male Rose-breasted Grosbeaks appeared at Lighthouse Oct. 15 (BY, SC, et al), Kensington Oct. 21 (BO'B) and a female visited Bolinas Oct. 26 (BY).

Sparrows were better represented than warblers. Three, apparently different, American Tree Sparrows visited the Road Forks Pool and Nunes Ranch area: Oct. 5 (AEn, et al), Oct. 9 (JM, mob) and Oct. 20, 23 (WO, mob). The same area held an adult and an immature Claycolored Sparrow Oct. 17 (BY, LCB, mob), with the immature lingering through Oct. 23 (GH, mob). A Sharp-tailed Sparrow at Palo Alto Oct. 11

(SFB) may be the earliest fall return on record for California. Also back at a traditional location was another at Pine Gulch Creek Oct. 23 (fide DSi). A Swamp Sparrow at the latter site Oct. 20 (BDP) followed one at Olema Oct. 17 (JW). White-throated Sparrows seemed unusually abundant, with possibly 11 on outer Point Reyes from Oct. 8 to Oct. 17 alone (mob). Longspurs were essentially absent from their usual fields on Point Reyes, with only a single Chestnut-collared near Spaletta Ranch Oct. 9 (DS). The next day a Lapland Longspur was reported flying past the Lighthouse (SL, fide WG).

The Bobolink at Nunes Ranch Oct. 16-17 (RS, BY) eluded most birders. A Rusty Blackbird explored California sand on San Gregorio State Beach Oct. 24 (CS, AK). The pair of Great-tailed Grackles remained in Aquatic Park to at least Oct. 13 (IMcG, GF). The male was tailless on Oct. 12 (IMcG), so perhaps we almost lost him to a predator. An Orchard Oriole briefly visited a feeder in Alamo Sept. 26 (JR) and a "Baltimore" type Northern Oriole was at the Lighthouse Oct. 15 (BY,

BL, et al).

Observers: Peter Allen, Bev Anderson, Onik Arian, Anthony Arnold, Stephen F. Bailey, Louis Banker, Bruce Barrett, Max Beckwith, Laurence C. Binford, Scott Carey, Clay Coler, Nancy Conzett, Donna Dittmann, Art Edwards (AE), Andy Engilis (AEn), Jules Evens, Gary Feller, Bud Fry, Tim Gates, Albert Ghiorso, Wilma Ghiorso, Clark Gleason, Jeff Greenhouse, Kem Hainebach (KH), Keith Hansen, Nancy Hillyard, Kevin Hintsa (KHi), Bob Hirt, Alan Hopkins, George Hugenberg, Pat Jacobson, Tom Johnson, Andrea Kieserman, Charles King, Vesta Kirby, Richard Koeppel, Jeri M. Langham, Steve Laymon, Bill Lenarz (BL), Ron LeValley, Bill Link, John Luther, Eugene Makishima, many observers (mob), Guy McCaskie, John McCormack, Ione McGee, Mark Miller, Steve Miller, Joseph Morlan, Dan Murphy, Bob O'Brien, Winifred Orcutt, Benjamin D. Parmeter, John Parmeter, Bill Pursell, Bob Richmond, Jean Richmond (JR), Don Roberson, Mary Louise Rosegay, Jim Royer (JRo), Becca Serdehely, Dennis Serdehely (DSe), Dave Shuford (DS), Dianne Sierra (DSi), Rich Stallcup, Maury Stern, Chris Swarth, Ron Thorn, Dorothy Tobkin, Jack Whetstone, Pcter White, Dianne Williams (DiW), David Winkler (DW), David Yee, Bob Yutzy, Jon Zablackis. -STEPHEN F. BAILEY, Observations Editor

Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720 (phone 548-9507 or Ioe Morlan at 524-7421)

Ano Nuevo, Anyone?

The January GULL will have details of a day-long bus trip to see the elephant seals on their breeding grounds at Año Nuevo State Park in February. For advance information you may call 526-1260. This is a benefit for Mono Lake.

—MILDRED BENNETT

# **Conservation Notes**

## A NEW ECOLOGICAL PRESERVE IN THE EAST BAY

On Thursday, October 28, 1982, at its meeting in Sacramento, the State Lands Commission, on the recommendations of its staff, formally exercised the Public Trust Easement over that portion of the so-called Albany Mudflats north of Golden Gate Fields which is subject to tidal action and within the Albany city limits. The area is to be preserved in its natural state as an ecological unit under the control and possession of the California Department of Fish and Game. Public fishing, boating and access and recreation are to be permitted to the extent that the ecological needs of the area are not damaged thereby.

The Commission's action thus preserves a very important food source and habitat for tens of thousands of our wintering waterfowl and shore-birds. Up to 70 species have been observed in the area between May and October of this year—all before the peak of the wintering bird population. It also sets a very important precedent toward preserving the few remaining wetlands habitats around San Francisco Bay.

This decision is the culmination of months of work by the staffs of the Commission and the City of Albany, as well as the many groups such as GGAS which have been working toward the establishment of the East Bay Shoreline Park. The Albany Mudflats and the Emeryville Crescent were the two highest priority items for acquisition as wildlife sanctuaries in conjunction with the Park. Because the issues were less complicated at Albany, this parcel was tackled first. GGAS has strongly supported the Commission staff throughout the process and we thank them heartily for their efforts.

—JON ZABLACKIS

#### BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR GYPSY MOTHS

The medfly may be gone but a new threat to California's vegetation now exists in the form of a two-inch caterpillar. The culprit is the gypsy moth, a well-known scourge of eastern forests, and it has been found in Alameda County.

A description of the moth and its life cycle are necessary in order to explain why it can be devastating. The adult female is about two inches wide with wings spread (the size of a 50-cent piece) and snowy white with three black wavy lines across her fore (front) wings. The male is chocolate brown but also has the three lines (harder to see on the male) and feathery antennae. Mating takes place in August. The female lays a buff-colored flat mass of eggs (about the size of a dime) and covers them with sticky material for adhesion and hairs for protection from predators. The eggs will be laid on any smooth surface and that's part of the problem. The eggs are laid not only on trees, but also on the underside

of RV campers, deck chairs or even picnic tables. In this way, people from the east coast visiting or moving to the west coast unknowingly carry these hitchhikers into California.

The egg stage lasts all winter. Unfortunately, the Alameda County Department of Agriculture does not know if the moth goes into its typical *diapause* (overwintering stage) on the west coast. In fact, all that is known about the moth's life cycle comes from studies done in the eastern states and due to our very different climate, the moth may have an altered life cycle here.

In spring the caterpillars emerge and begin feeding on leaves. They aren't choosy about what they eat, but favor oak, apple, alder, aspen, birch, maple and various evergreens (including redwood). Leaves eaten in the spring may be replaced but if the leaves are eaten in the fall, a tree is unable to produce new leaves and may die. A gypsy moth population explosion in the Bay Area could be catastrophic.

The full-grown caterpillar has a double row of red and blue spots down its back. After feeding for about six weeks and growing to two inches in length, the larvae enter the resting stage (pupation) for two weeks, after which the adult moth emerges.

The Alameda County Department of Agriculture has initiated a detection program to check for moths. According to a spokesperson at the department, detection stations have been set up at a few places around California's borders where incoming cars are checked for eggs on either the vehicle or the objects being transported. Additionally, department employees regularly check for moths under houses, in woodpiles and on other likely locations. Two traps per square mile are set up throughout the county and whenever multiple numbers of moths are found, the traps are increased to 50 per square mile.

All Alameda county residents can help prevent a gypsy moth invasion. If you see an egg mass, adult moth, caterpillar or defoliated trees, call the Alameda County Department of Agriculture at 881-6354 to report it. If you are not sure if you have found a gypsy moth, you can bring suspected insects or eggs into the Department office (221 W. Winton Ave., Hayward, CA 94544) to be checked.

-ANDREA KIESERMAN, Conservation Committee

## GGAS Board of Directors

At its October meeting the board received with pleasure the first computer report of income and expenditure. The efforts of the finance committee have brought the record keeping abreast of the current technology and the arrangements should make the task of the treasurer much more pleasant.

# Call for Bird Feeder and House Designs

A new book, tentatively titled *The Audubon Society Handbook for Attracting Birds*, will include innovative homemade designs for bird feeders, houses and baths. The author, Stephen W. Kress, is looking for improvements to standard models of feeders and houses and original designs for any homemade bird-attracting creations. Novel approaches to repelling squirrels, cats and nuisance birds are also welcome. In addition to the handbook, some of the submitted material may be selected for articles in the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's new magazine, *The Living Bird Quarterly*. The designers of selected plans will be acknowledged in the book and articles.

Mail detailed plans with measurements (and photographs if available) to: Dr. Stephen W. Kress, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850.

## The Back Yard Birder

As a bird-watcher, birder or "birdo" (as we are known in Australia), we are part of an international fraternity in which total strangers may become lifelong friends through a common interest. There are an estimated two million of us in the U.S. Birding can be enjoyed anytime, anywhere, with a minimum of equipment and expense. All that is required is a bird identification manual and a good pair of binoculars. Field glasses with a central focus are best. The most used optical combinations are 8x40, 10x50 or 7-50. The first number refers to magnification and the second to the light-gathering aperture. If by dividing the aperture by the magnification the result is five or greater, the image will be the most brilliant, especially in dim light.

We Californians are fortunate to live in a state of dramatic climatic contrasts. There are 25 distinct habitats as described in Arnold Small's "Birds of California." Only in California can you view the largest flying land birds, the California Condor, and the smallest bird in the U.S., the Calliope Hummingbird, on the same day (near the summit of Mt. Pinos in southern Kern County). In a single day of travel from the ocean, through river valleys, to foothills, desert and mountains you could spot 200 species. Within one year 400 kinds of birds can be found within California's borders. Since 1900, 518 species have been observed in our state. Two species (the California Condor and the Yellow-billed Magpie) breed nowhere else. Sixty-five families occur here, only one less than Texas, which is a much larger state.

The annual Audubon Christmas bird count is coming up Sunday, December 19. You may wonder at the value of such a count. In some areas unbroken records of these counts go back to 1900, giving us indications of changes in bird populations. At a time when we are becoming

concerned about actual or fancied declines in bird life, these are vital sources of data. You needn't be an expert to join in the count. The more eyes and ears, the less chance of missing an important bird. The camaraderic, the chance to learn from dedicated and experienced birders, the treasure hunt atmosphere of seeking out elusive species all add up to a unique holiday experience. So put on your hiking boots or sneakers, your olivaceous clothes (birds do see colors), grab your field glasses and take part in the fun.

—MEG PAULETICH

## The President's Corner

I recently met with the new National Audubon Vice President for Education, Gene Wilhelm, when he was in the Bay Area. We talked of the youth program which is to begin soon with an insert in a national magazine aimed at pre-teen young people. Because one of the major purposes of Audubon is to educate our citizenry, it is extremely important for all of us that the youth of our country be knowledgeable about its environment and how we affect it by our actions. We hope to be able to participate actively in the new program and to provide some useful input to National Audubon from a chapter perspective.

To do this, it is necessary to have the support and, yes, the efforts of volunteers. I know that there are good numbers of teachers, for instance, among the GGAS membership who could provide information on the kinds of programs that they could use as part of their science curriculum. Most important would be programs which would be useful in an urban environment where easy access to varied habitats is difficult. Parents of school-age children probably have some good ideas about the kinds of things they would like to have their children learning in the classroom.

Anyone having any suggestions is welcome to address them to my attention through the GGAS office. Also, any individuals who have time to volunteer to take our current slide programs into schools or to work on environmental programs for children are urged to call Andrea Kieserman at the GGAS office. Input from San Francisco members is especially welcome because it is imperative that we increase environmental awareness among "inner city" youth and encourage their participation in making the City an even better place to live.

—ION ZABLACKIS

# Cooper's Meeting

On Monday, December 6, Dr. Walter Koenig of the Hastings Natural History Reservation will present a talk to the Northern Chapter of the Cooper's Ornithological Society entitled: "Food supply and breeding in the Acorn Woodpecker—more than mighty oak trees from acorns spring."

Dr. Koenig has been studying the bizarre Acorn Woodpecker for the past eight years. His talks are well known for their engaging wit and high

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information content. All interested in birds are invited to attend. The meeting will begin at 8 p.m. in Room 2000, Life Sciences Building, UC Berkeley, and will be preceded by a business meeting at 7:30 p.m.

## News from The Ranch

As winter weather increases, many activities swirl around Audubon Canyon Ranch. The heart of all Ranch activities is found in the work of its many dedicated and hard-working volunteers. The current fall solicitation letter, the results of which substantially support Ranch operations, has been mailed by such a group. The Finance and Development committees wish to thank Frank and Jean Allen, Barbara Benkman, Adelaide Fichpner, Carmen Gales, Helen Iffel, Marion Lockwood, Amy McElhany, Fran Nelson, Aileen Pierson and Mig Schwarz for their work. Because of this volunteer labor and much more like it the costs relating to this fund-raising operation comprise only ½ of 1% of our budget, a truly miraculous accomplishment in this period of inflation.

-CLIFFORD CONLY, Jr.

## Valeria Da Costa Recovering

Former GGAS Field Trips Chairman and Membership Chairman (1962-1972) "Val" Da Costa was seriously injured in a boating accident off the Farallones Island on August 15. In the past she had organized many trips to the Farallones and other areas. Mrs. Da Costa's husband, Robert, writes that "her convalescence is requiring some months, but she is expected to recover."

## GIFTS AND BEQUESTS

For GGAS

Gift of

In memory of Otto Ernst Sandkuhl Delanie M. Kilduff Gordon Fisk & Associates

For Audubon Canyon Ranch

In memory of

Mrs. Katherine Pipes Butler Larry Gullette Moira Nichols Don and Pat Steinert

The Society welcomes gifts in general or gifts in honor or in memory of relatives and friends. Such gifts will be used as specified by the donor or, if unspecified, at the discretion of the GGAS Board of Directors. This includes their use for general GGAS activities or for special programs of the Society including Audubon Canyon Ranch of which GGAS is a sponsor. Please send your gift in the form of a check made out to the Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc. to Minnie Groshong, Corresponding Secretary, Golden Gate Audubon Society, 2718 Telegraph Ave., #206, Berkeley, CA 94705-1179. All gifts are tax deductible. The Society is also appreciative of any bequests. Such bequests should specify as recipient the Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc. All gifts, donations and bequests will be acknowledged in *The Gull* as well as personally on behalf of the Society by the Corresponding Secretary.



Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc. Office: 843-2222 2718 Telegraph Avenue, #206 Berkeley, California 94705

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#### GULL THE

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#### **OFFICERS**

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Corresponding Secretary, Minnie Groshong (526-8443)\* Treasurer,

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Education, GGAS office (843-2222)
Field Trips, Shirley Kelly (387-8290)\*
Extended Field Trips, GGAS office (843-2222)
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Director-at-Large: Nancy Conzett (527-2593)\*

GULL Editor, Don Sanford (527-6017)\* Observations: Stephen Bailey (548-9507) and Joseph Morlan (524-7421)

Librarian, Christine Jones (929-0327)

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA RARE BIRD ALERT (recorded) 843-2211 Executive Director, Andrea Kieserman (843-2222)

Mail for all individuals listed above should be sent to the GGAS office.

Send address changes to office promptly; Post Office does not forward THE GULL. Monthly meetings: second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Joint membership — local and national \$25 per year (individual); \$32 (family); includes AUDUBON Magazine and THE GULL; to join, make checks payable to National Audubon Society and send to GGAS office to avoid delay in receiving THE GULL. Membership renewals should be sent directly to the National Audubon office. Subscriptions to THE GULL separately \$6 per year; single issues \$1. High school and college student membership \$15 per year. Senior citizen individual \$17, senior citizen family \$19. Associate Membership in Golden Gate Audubon Society, \$10 per year.

The Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc. was established January 25, 1917, and became a chapter of National Audubon in 1948.

The Gull deadline is the first of the month for the following month.